Constructivist **M**edia **D**ecoding
STARTER KIT

for Music 6-12

Constructivist Media Decoding (CMD)

WHAT IS CMD?

is a **core content** **inquiry-based** teaching method where **ALL students** at **all levels** develop **habits of questioning** through **media analysis.**

WHY CMD?

THIS APPROACH IS

inquiry-based   student-centered   curriculum-driven

AND teaches core subject-area standards

develops habits of critical thinking

builds student agency

engages all students

WHAT IS IN THIS KIT?

This kit gives you the **resources and steps** you need to begin **integrating Constructivist Media Decoding** into your work with students.

HOW TO GET STARTED?

WATCH:

- ▶ What is Media, Media Literacy and CMD? (3 min)
- ▶ High School Students Talk about Media Literacy (2 min)
- ▶ Project Look Sharp Lessons (2 min)
- ▶ Watch a Short CMD Demonstration Video

PLAN A CMD

STEP 1: Brainstorm upcoming CMD opportunities

What content will my students be learning?

What media can target my curricular goals?

And be engaging for all my students?

What content and media literacy questions should I ask?

PLAN A CMD

STEP 2: Review the CMD Guide for

- Tips to successfully lead a CMD
- Areas of caution
- Pitfalls to avoid

PLAN A CMD

STEP 3: Select a Lesson

Search Project Look Sharp's website

OR

Select a lesson from our Guide for Music 6-12

OR

Still not sure? Choose one of the lessons below:

Youth, Hip Hop & Climate Change

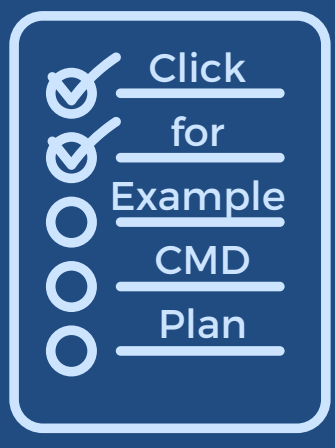Aretha Franklin: Amazing Grace

Bob Dylan: Storytelling for Social Justice

PLAN A CMD

STEP 4: Plan Your Lesson

- What are your objectives?
- What questions can you ask students to meet your lesson's objectives?
- What follow up questions will
  - ➔ deepen student thinking?
  - ➔ help them teach each other?
- What background knowledge do your students need for the decoding?
- Will your media documents be accessible to all students?

☑ Click
☑ for
○ Example
○ CMD
○ Plan

LEAD A CMD

STEP 5: Teach Your Media Decoding Lesson!

After the lesson, REFLECT:

What was successful?

What was challenging?

Use the Self-evaluation Checklist.

NEXT STEPS

Find more CMD lessons at

PROJECT LOOK SHARP

or use our DIY guide to create your own!